

Dr. Peterson

Newsweek Interview Topics

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Tech Square:

- In its 12 years, more than 100 startups and innovative companies have located in the area. Great momentum and synergy there from recent additions of Home Depot, Southern Company, Coca-Cola Enterprises, WorldPay, along with AT&T Mobility and NCR.
- AT&T liked the synergy surrounding its foundry so much that it built another innovation center near Georgia Tech — the AT&T Drive Studio, where AT&T engineers work with major car manufacturers to connect the cars of the 21st century.
- High Performance Computing Center — When it opens in 2018, the HPCC will support the economic development of Atlanta and Georgia by creating jobs, new tax revenues and technology clusters, with a particular focus on FinTech, healthcare IT and data analytics.

Georgia IT Industry:

Georgia's information technology industry is booming. As a partner with the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Georgia Tech's talent pool of faculty experts, researchers, and exceptional students positions it to be a key player. Some facts about the IT industry in Georgia:

- 16,250 technology companies
- \$113.1 billion economic impact on Georgia
- 5th-largest IT employment cluster in U.S. (200,000 high-tech professionals)

Georgia Tech biomedical collaboration:

- The tumor monorail project (Ravi Bellamkonda, lead investigator), a collaboration between Georgia Tech, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University, will receive a \$6.5 million grant from The Marcus Foundation.

- Strong ongoing relationship with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Opening of Engineered Biosystems Building (EBB):

- More than \$730 million in 2013 research expenditures. Number expected to grow after EBB opens in June.
- EBB will significantly impact Georgia's economy by driving innovation; commercializing new devices, drugs, and technologies; forming new companies; and creating high-skill, high-paying jobs.
- EBB designed as an interdisciplinary hub to foster collaboration that many times results in incredible breakthroughs. It has been said that if the cure for cancer is to be found at Georgia Tech, it will happen in the EBB.

Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI²) is Georgia Tech's chief business outreach and economic development organization. Core mission is to provide an exhaustive suite of programs to assist business, industry, entrepreneurs, and economic developers across Georgia. As the nation's largest and most comprehensive university-based program of its kind, EI² helps enterprises of all kinds and sizes — and across all sectors — improve their competitiveness through the application of science, technology, and innovation.

During fiscal year 2014, EI²:

- Served 1,440 Georgia manufacturing companies and helped them increase sales by \$219 million, create, or save 1,910 jobs, and slash operating costs by \$40 million.
- Assisted Georgia Tech faculty members in evaluating 235 research innovations and helped form more than 30 new companies based on this intellectual property. In all, Georgia Tech research innovations drew \$33 million in direct investment and created 737 jobs.

- Helped Georgia companies secure \$592 million in government contracts and create or save an estimated 11,850 jobs.
- Assisted 96 minority entrepreneurs who, as a result, received nearly \$93 million in new contracts, increased sales, and secured new bonding/financing.
- Served 505 technology startup companies that generated capital activity (venture capital investment and mergers/acquisitions) of more than \$270 million.
- Helped Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC) companies and graduates achieve more than \$1.6 billion in revenue. Companies associated with the ATDC have attracted near \$2.8 billion in investment capital to date.
- The ATDC is one of the oldest and largest university-based incubators in the United States. Having celebrated its 35th year, it has graduated more than 150 startup companies from its business development program.
- Currently, ATDC is working with 40 startups in Atlanta and working with a number of promising young companies in Savannah.
- Helped 20 Georgia companies prepare proposals for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants and win more than \$11 million in awards.

This year:

- Received \$500,000 in federal grant money from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration to provide education, support, and programs to develop the entrepreneurial communities in Athens, Augusta, and Downtown Atlanta in Georgia.
- Received \$1 million gift from WorldPay, a global payments and transactions company, to create a three-year financial technology accelerator program to target startups across Georgia that operate in that sector to help them grow and develop.

Georgia Tech Professional Education:

- GTPE educated more than 13,000 working professionals, offering 247 public courses, and trained the workforce of over 2,000 companies last year.
- Launched the Georgia Tech-Savannah Learning Series to reconnect Savannah business leaders and GT alumni with the Savannah campus.
- GT Professional Education's Military Program is the first Academic Institution in the country to host active duty military interns with Gulfstream as the first company to participate in the program.
- Approached by Saudi Arabia, India, Panama, China, Brazil and other countries to partner on workforce development programs.
- GTPE facilitates delivery of the OMS CS degree program in partnership with the College of Computing, and launched the OMS CS non-credit program with 5 courses in 2014.
- GTPE is partnering with ECE on the Professional Master's in Sustainable Electrical Energy, and with the College of Computing on the MS in Information Security for Saudi Aramco, the world's most valuable company.